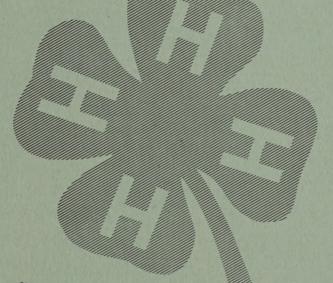
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ACHIEVEMENT

OBSERVANCE



Extension Service
U. S. Department of Agriculture

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FOREWORD

NATIONAL 4-H ACHIEVEMENT WEEK November 5-13, 1949

TO COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORKERS:

We feel that National 4-H Achievement Week is an occasion for congratulations to you for the top records made in 4-H Club work this year.

More boys and girls were reached by the influence of the 4-H program, more club members completed their work, more leaders were given better training, more programs were enriched, and more of the better methods and ideas set in motion. Such progress could only be achieved because of your faith in the program and what could be accomplished through it. It is truly your Achievement Week, too, and we rejoice with you in the attainments it represents.

Recently I have been thinking over what recognition of 4-H achievement should mean. I wonder if this is not the most important occasion in the 4-H year, especially on the local level. Can we use it to quicken appreciation of good work done, deepen a desire to do better, encourage the disheartened, arouse parents to a sense of greater responsibility, attract new leaders, and stimulate those who have served so well? Not all of these in every observance, of course, but each year, it seems to me, we can make this week more meaningful and worth while to everyone participating.

We hope you will find this manual useful in planning your observance of National 4-H Achievement Week. We shall particularly appreciate it if you will tell us what you needed in it but did not find, so that we may begin now to plan for an even better manual in 1950

Director of Extension Work

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Extension Service

NATIONAL 4-H ACHIEVEMENT WEEK November 5 - 13, 1949

THEME: BETTER LIVING FOR A BETTER WORLD

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Prepared by Gertrude L. Warren, Organization of 4-H Club Work, Division of Field Coordination, in cooperation with the Division of Extension Information.

MAIN OBJECTIVES

The objectives for the observance of National 4-H Achievement Week may vary considerably in different areas. However, the following are the main ones now being recognized:

To make a report to the Nation regarding the total 4-H accomplishments which have topped those of any preceding year. The significance of small beginnings and of cumulative effort should be emphasized as well as 1949 theme, "Better Living for a Better World." The general public is entitled to this information.

To highlight the outstanding contributions of 4-H Club members in helping to develop world-wide understanding and a lasting peace.

To see that parents in every community understand and appreciate what their own boys and girls have accomplished through 4-H Club work during the past year and its significance in relation to the total 4-H effort.

To give recognition to group as well as individual achievements, through 4-H Club work. Such recognition is important.

To help 4-H members to develop their own 1950 4-H Club plans, based on their 1949 4-H achievements, particularly in local 4-H Clubs

To emphasize the 4-H opportunities afforded rural young people, and encourage those not yet enrolled to join in keeping with enrollment goals set.

To make recognitions during 4-H Achievement Week important in the lives of all 4-H Club members. It is the hope that everyone will do his full part.

TELLING THE 4-H CLUB STORY

"It is our responsibility as 4-H leaders to do as effective work as possible with the young people of today through the 4-H Club program. It is equally our responsibility as 4-H leaders to tell effectively the 4-H Club story.

When this is done, parents, teachers, businessmen, clergymen - yes, the entire community will understand and support wholeheartedly the 4-H Club program underway. Thereby, 4-H members will be encouraged and inspired to greater achievement and usefulness as young citizens in a new world of scientific discovery and, we trust, of spiritual awakening."

--H. W. Hochbaum, Chief Division of Field Coordination

A 4-H REPORT TO THE NATION

HIGHLIGHTS

4-H accomplishments set a new high record according to latest reports.

Of the nearly 2,000,000 young people enrolled in 4-H Club work, over 76 percent completed their project work in farming or homemaking.

Over 14,000,000 rural young people have participated in 4-H Club work at some time.

4-H members do things in the home and on the home farm.

They produce.

They achieve.

They assume home responsibilities.

4-H members do things in their communities.

They build.

They serve.

They become responsible citizens.

4-H members work to make America strong.

They improve their own health.

They improve health conditions in home and community.

4-H members share with those across the seas.

They send needed supplies.

They exchange friendly greetings.

They make visits to each other's homes.

4-H members lead that others may do and serve.

NATIONAL 4-H CLUB ACHIEVEMENTS, 1949*

A RECORD YEAR

What 1.850.000 Members Did in Their 82.000 4-H Clubs Under the Guidance of Their 225.000 Local Volunteer Club Leaders

1. 4-H members produced and conserved food, to make more available for their own families, for other families, and for those in need in other lands:

| Garden products acres | 100,000 |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Poultry birds | 8,000,000 |
| Livestock head | |
| Food crops acres | 600,000 |
| Products preserved quarts | |
| Food brined gallons | |
| Food dried or cured pounds | |
| Food stored pounds | 1,000,000 |
| Food frozen pounds | |

2. They made their homes more attractive and livable through their 4-H Club work in --

| Food planning, preparation | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| and service meals | 30,000,000 |
| Room improvement units | 650,000 |
| | 300,000 |
| Home management activities | 200,000 |
| Beautification of home grounds homes | 120,000 |
| Clothing garments | 2,200,000 |
| Child care children | 21,000 |
| Music appreciation homes reached . | 225,000 |

3. They made their homes and home farms more efficient and profitable through their 4-H Club work.

Achievement

| PERSONAL PROPERTY AND PROPERTY | |
|---|---|
| 275,000 | kept personal accounts |
| 500,000 | participated in fire and accident prevention |
| 132,000 | made use of special economic information |
| 350,000 | . conducted soil and wildlife conservation practices |
| 140,000 | carried on forestry activities |
| | engaged in work relating to agricultural engineering, |
| 1000 | electricity, tractor maintenance, and general farm |
| | repairs |

^{*} Estimates, based on reports of State club leaders for 1949.

Club members

4. They improved their own health, and cooperated in improving health conditions in their homes and communities.

Club members

Achievement

| 650,000 | | | 0 | | | carried on special health activities |
|---------|--|---|---|--|--|---|
| 250,000 | | | | | | had periodic health examinations |
| 240,000 | | 9 | | | | trained in home nursing and first aid |

Thousands of club members checked and improved their own food and health habits.

Thousands more removed farm and home accident hazards.

An equally large number prepared and served 30,000,000 meals in keeping with the nutritional needs of their own families.

5. They worked as responsible citizens to improve their own communities.

Club members

Achievement

| 55,000 . | | | served as | junior 4-H leaders |
|-------------|-----|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 210,000 . | . 0 | | carried on recr | eational activities |
| 45,000 . | | engaged in com | munity activities | , such as improving |
| 37-24 10313 | | public grounds, | conducting local | fairs, and helping |
| | | - | | those in distress |

400,000 . demonstrated improved farm and home practices to their neighbors and other interested people of their communities

Thousands of 4-H members developed a deeper appreciation of the American way of life by practicing domocracy at home and in their club and community. They did much to help those in distress - victims of polio, floods and earth quakes.

- 6. They gained a better understanding of their responsibilities in the world of today.
 - They sent needed supplies to the less fortunate across the seas. These gifts included thousands of packages containing food, clothing, garden seeds and equipment of various types.
 - They corresponded with many of those to whom these gifts were sent, and a few representative 4-H members helped in the homes and on the farms of young people in such countries.
 - In their 4-H discussions, they continued to spend much time trying to understand some of the important social and economic forces now at work and the steps to take in developing the good-neighbor spirit at home and abroad, to the end that there may be a just and lasting peace.

THE IMPORTANCE OF RECOGNIZING 4-H WORK WELL DONE

May all friends of 4-H Club work take pride in the fact that in 1949 the 4-H achievements of the nearly 2,000,000 members again topped those of any previous year. To all these members along with their 225,000 local volunteer leaders, much credit should be given. Their records conclusively show that 4-H members know how to do things, often in spite of unexpected handicaps.

National 4-H Achievement Week provides the greatest opportunity of the year to recognize publicly the efforts of all 4-H members "to make their best better." Such recognition is due every worthy 4-H member by leaders, parents, and others, whose opinion counts and is essential to the normal, steady growth of every boy and girl. It provides a feeling of self-confidence and a real sense of security. It develops the will to achieve. It raises standards of accomplishment. It encourages habits of success and often does much to help young people to evaluate their own efforts. Let us as leaders do our full part in giving the 4-H members the recognition which they so much deserve.

--Gertrude Warren
Organization, 4-H Club Work

There is a destiny that make us brothers

None goes his way alone.

All that we send into the lives of others

Comes back into our own.

I care not what his temples or his creeds.

One thing holds firm and fast—

That into his fateful heap of days and deeds

The soul of a man is cast.

-- Edwin Markham

NATIONAL AND STATE PLANS

National 4-H Achievement Week provides an opportunity not only to feature total 4-H accomplishments during 1949, but to call attention to local and county results, where community or county 4-H achievement days have already been held. The major plans for this week include:

1. National and State broadcasts.

These may feature total 4-H accomplishments, emphasizing what 4-H members have already done in producing and conserving food for home and abroad. Although some effort will be made to arrange national 4-H broadcasts during the week, the main effort in this regard will be reserved for the week of the National 4-H Club Congress, November 27 to December 1, 1949, and National 4-H Club Week, March 4 to 12, 1950, when the emphasis will be placed on checking up on progress made to date, thereby insuring a larger number of completions by 4-H Club members.

- 2. Messages to all 4-H members by high Federal and State Government officials and other prominent friends of 4-H Club work. There will be a special message by the Secretary of Agriculture.
- 3. National and State news and feature material.

These will be concerned with total accomplishments by 4-H members during the past year in community, county, State and Nation.

4. Magazine articles and feature articles,

In this connection, of special importance will be the weekly and Sunday newspapers, as well as Extension news channels.

- 5. Use of State 4-H posters.
- 6. Use of achievement window displays, stickers, gate signs, and other aids.

Such aids will be furnished by the National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work. "The National 4-H Club News" can play a significant part in providing suitable recognitions for deserving local leaders and 4-H members.

- 7. Commercial cooperation; window displays of 4-H Club effort.
- 8. Emphasis on the national 4-H theme "Better Living for a Better World."

SPECIAL SUGGESTIONS FOR COUNTY EXTENSION AGENTS

Editors and other newspapermen are always looking for good news items. This year, National 4-H Achievement Week provides such people another splendid opportunity to give appropriate recognition to the many deserving 4-H members, local volunteer leaders, and others who have supported the work in spite of many unavoidable difficulties.

- 1. 4-H Stories. Provide editors of local papers with photographs and information on National, State, and local 4-H results.
- 2. Window Displays. Consult bankers and managers of local stores about window displays. Some will have special plans already under way.

 Furnish 4-H posters, 4-H window cards and products canned or grown or made by 4-H members. Provide, if possible, for demonstrations by club members in local store or bank windows.
- 3. Circular Letters. Send circular letters to all local leaders acquainting them with plans for National 4-H Achievement Week and what they are expected to do. Circular letters concerning National 4-H Achievement Week may also be sent to 4-H officers and possibly to all members.
- 4. Radio and Television Broadcasts. Make contact with local broadcasting and television stations regarding special 4-H programs during National 4-H Achievement Week highlighting the outstanding achievements of local 4-H members, as well as the extent of national and international 4-H Club work today.
- 5. Membership Appeals. Plan with local 4-H leaders various ways of reaching more young people with the 4-H program. Make special announcement of those enrolled during National 4-H Achievement Week.
- 6. Plans for 1950. Announce plans for 1950 as formulated by the 4-H Clubs of the county.
- 7. 4-H Posters and Window Cards. Put 4-H posters and 4-H window cards in all public places.
- 8. Cooperation of the Church. Obtain the cooperation of the clergy of local churches. Supply them with all necessary information on 4-H work and plans for 1950.

SPECIAL SUGGESTIONS FOR LOCAL ACHTEVENENT PROGRAMS

Invitation to all parents and friends of 4-H.

4-H music by 4-H orchestra, band, or chorus.

Message to 4-H members from prominent Government—State and Federal—officials and friends of 4-H Club work.

Pledge of allegiance and 4-H Club pledge.

Summary report of 4-H achievements by president of 4-H Club council or some other appropriate person.

Special recognition and awards to those 4-H members who did outstanding work or made a special effort.

Salute to local volunteer leaders.

Presentation of the 4-H Award of the Silver Clover or other awards to 4-H Club leaders.

Presentation of the 4-H Recognition Plaque to some leading citizen who has made an outstanding contribution to 4-H Club work.

Some special recognition given to parents for their support of the program. The challenge ahead. Plans for 1950.

4-H citizenship ceremonial.

4-H demonstrations relating to various phases of 4-H Jlub work.

4-H playlet.

4-H admission ceremony for those newly enrolled.

Address by a prominent citizen.

Special report of total achievements and extracts of 4-H Club work. The report included in this manual may prove useful. (See page 2.)

OTHER SUGGESTIONS RELATIVE TO LOCAL PROGRAMS

In some States, plans may include an achievement program in the morning, a noon-day lunch, and recreation programs in the afternoon. In other States, achievement programs are held in the evening, a 4-H banquet often being the main feature.

Cooperation with local organizations.

Window displays of 4-H work, with 4-H members participating.

Posters or stickers on window or on gate of every 4-H member.

Posters in town hall, post office, local bank, or other public place.

Achievement parades. The new 4-H green cape and cap may be worn by 4-H members. Achievement tours.

Announcement of 4-H plans for 1950.

Announcement of names of new members enrolled. ...

Introduction of new local 4-H leaders.

Special recognition of 4-H at local theaters; if possible the showing of a 4-H motion picture such as "The Green Promise."

Use of local radio and television broadcasts and other news channels to call attention to the values of the 4-H program.

Circular letters to all 4-H leaders, committee members and 4-H Club officers regarding suggestions for observance of National 4-H Achievement Week.

CIRCULAR LETTERS

Many itemized suggestions contained in this Manual regarding the observance of National 4-H Achievement Week can be issued to advantage in letters to local leaders, presidents of clubs and parents of club members. Reference may also be made to previous manuals in which suggestive circular letters are included. A suggestive circular letter follows:

TO ALL LOCAL 4-H CLUB LEADERS:

Subject: Observance of National 4-H Achievement Week - November 5-13

Let us begin early to plan for the observance of National 4-H Achievement Week, November 5-13 by calling attention to the observance of the Week at your club meetings, particularly in September and October. Let us see to it that every 4-H Club encourages its observance by the entire community.

Theme: Better Living for a Better World.

Main Objectives:

- 1. To make a report to the nation regarding the total 4-H accomplishments for the year.
- 2. To recognize all 4-H members who have done good work, especially the "runners-up."
- 3. To recognize 4-H friends and the parents of 4-H members for their cooperation.
- 4. To help 4-H members develop their own 1950 plans, based on their 1949 achievements, particularly on the local and county basis.

 Once a 4-H member always a 4-H member.

County and Local Resources:

The observance of National 4-H Achievement Week may be highlighted by means of:

- 1. Daily and weekly news channels.
- 2. Window displays with 4-H members participating.
- 3. Local 4-H programs.

Achievement meetings Achievement tours Achievement parades

4-H members may parade in the new green cape and hat designed for such occasions.

- 4. 4-H movies at local theaters.

 Aim to show "The Green Promise," if possible.
- 5. "National 4-H Club Nows."

 Contains many helpful ideas for observance of the Week. Encourage use in local 4-H Clubs.
- 6. Local 4-H radio broadcasts and television shows.
- 7. Feature articles and editorials on 4-H achievements in weekly and Sunday newspapers.
- 3. Special 4-H ceremonials, luncheon, and dinner meetings.
- 9. Use of 4-H posters and stickers.
- 10. Circular letters to all 4-H officers and committee members regarding suggestions for observance of National 4-H Achievement Week.

Many experienced 4-H leaders believe that it is most important to observe this Week because of its great significance to all those 4-H members who have done a good job. Such recognition is essential to the normal, steady growth of every bey and girl in providing a feeling of self-confidence and a real sense of security. Let us do our full part to make the observance of National 4-H Achievement Week a poverful force for good in strengthening the 4-H program everywhere and in helping the young people participating to gain those satisfactions that come from a realization of having done one's best.

Most sincerely,

(County Extension Agent)

SUGGESTIONS FOR NEWSPAPER HEADINGS (Taken from actual newspaper clippings)

National 4-H Achievement Week Mirrors Spirit of Great Youth Program
Objectives and Goals of 4-H Club Activities

A Four-Fold Program

Achievements of 4-H Boys, Girls Cause for Pride

Colorful Story of 4-H Club Work in County

Citizenship and Leadership, with Home and Farm Skills, Chief Aims of 4-H Work

County 4-Haers set Membership Goal

Pinch-Hitting Mother Finds 4-H Work Intriguing, Takes on More

Parent Support is an Important Asset in 4-H Program

Farm Success Story Told at 4-H Breakfast

4-H Boys and Girls Plan Achievement Banquet

Parents Play on the 4-H Team

Busy 4-Hiers

4-H Experiences of Much Value

Excerpts from 4-H Record Books Show Great Interest of Members

We Celebrate National 4-H Achievement Week

4-H Clubs Sponsor Window Displays Throughout County

4-H Club Work Trains Tomorrow's Citizens for Happy, Useful Lives

4-H Members Produce. They Achieve.

4-H Members Assume Farm and Home Responsibilities

4-H Members Become Responsible Citizens. They build. They serve.

4-H Members Work to Make America Strong

SUGGESTED ITEMS FOR USE IN DISPLAY ADVERTISEMENTS

(From West Virginia)

WE'VE BEEN WATCHING 4-H'ERS

We've seen them grown and develop into an organization that benefits rural youths in <u>(State</u>). We've watched them as they've included more and more activities into their program. We've watched them improve their project work as they have learned better ways of doing many farm jobs. We've watched them as they have become better and better citizens. We're proud to support 4-H Club work. During this National 4-H Achievement Week, we hope everyone will take advantage of the opportunity to learn more about this great youth movement. Congratulations 4-H boys and girls.

(Sponsor's Name Here)

LEADERS, TAKE A BOW---

We'd like to Take This Opportunity to Personally Congratulate the Volunteer Leaders in This County For the Fine Job You Are Doing With Our Rural Youth. It Is Only Through Your Unceasing Efforts and the Many Hours of Your Time That This Task Has Been Accomplished. We Know That Often You Are Busy With Your Own Work at Home, But Time and Time Again You've Worked a Little Faster and Stayed Up a Little Later in Order to Make Your Club Click. You Realize the Great Responsibilities That Have Been Given You in Helping These 4-H'ers Become the Kind of Adults This Nation Needs. Congratulations, Leaders!

(Sponsor's Name Here)

FORWARD WITH 4-H---

It's the People In This Community Who Keep Things Running Smoothly, and You Young People in 4-H, Our Future Leaders, Are Already Doing Your Share....You've Helped Sponsor Scrap Drives, Collect Old Clothing. You Have Sent Seeds and Clothing Abroad. We've Called On You Again and Again For Help and We're Proud of the Way Your Training Is Helping You to Become Worth While Citizens. So, the Best of Luck to You 4-H Boys and Girls. And Congratulations For A Job Well Done!

(Sponsor's Name Here)

4-H IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

We've Been in the Banking Business For Years and We Think We Know a Sound Investment When We See It. Enrolling In 4-H Will Pay Dividends Fast, and Payments Will Come Regularly In the Form of New Frinds, Successful Projects, and Unlimited Opportunities. We Believe You'll Have to Look a Long Time Before You'll Find a More Profitable, Safe Investment.

(Sponsor's Name Here)

4-H CLUB PARTICIPATION PROVIDES ---

- 1. Inspiration
 - 2. Training and Experience in Cooperation
 - 3. Leadership
 - 4. Community Service
 - 5. Good Citizenship

That's Why We Say 4-H Club Work Is The Finest Possible Training For Boys and Girls. Keep Up the Good Work, 4-H Boys and Girls.

(Sponsor's Name Here)

SUGGESTIVE ITEMS FOR NEWSPAPERS AND BROADCASTS

--0--

THIS IS NATIONAL 4-H ACHIEVEMENT WEEK

| girls who are members | of this fine | organization. | |
|-----------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| To be identified | with a 4-H Cl | lub is a badge of distinction, | borne by more |

This is NATIONAL 4-H ACHIEVEMENT WEEK for the nearly-two million boys and

| To be identified with a 4-h club is a badge of distinction, borne by more |
|---|
| than boys and girls last year, of which were from |
| county. |
| country. |
| |
| in this county, em- |
| |
| (Extension worker) (Title) |
| phasizes that "adults who are concerned for the future of this generation can |
| do no better service than that of encouraging and assisting the 4-H movement h |
| recognizing work well done, providing leadership and support and making greater |
| |
| participation possible." |
| |
| |

Four-H Clubs represent the largest rural youth organization in the world. Numbering nearly 2,000,000 boys and girls between the ages of 10 and 21 years, they are enrolled in over 80,000 clubs throughout the United States, as well as in Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico. England, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Cuba, British possessions of the Caribbean, Venezuela, Peru, Korea, and other nations also, have 4-H Clubs or similar organizations.

points out that each 4-H Club member does one or more phases of project work, under supervision of the county Extension office and local volunteer leaders, that will demonstrate or teach better ways of homemaking and agriculture. Four-H boys and girls are practicing democratic procedures and learning in their 4-H Clubs to have a deeper appreciation of the democratic way of life.

West Virginia

--0--

WHAT DOES 4-H CLUB WORK DO FOR YOUR BOY OR GIRL?

What does 4-H Club work do for YOUR boy or girl?

Here is the answer as given by the late Pr. C. B. Smith, a pioneer in the movement:

"Four-H Club work becomes part of the lives of rural young people while their minds are still plastic; gives them guidance when they need it; teaches them some of the inspiring things in agriculture and farm home life; and gives them a vision of its possibilities as a life work. "Four-H Club work demonstrates the best practices in agriculture and home economics to entire communities and counties by means of the projects carried by the members, by their exhibits, their fairs, their expositions, and their public demonstrations.

"Four-H Club work develops rural leadership, community pride and spirit. It builds young men and women who know how to conduct meetings, organize community projects, and who are trained to judge crops, livestock, and products of the farm and home.

"Four-H Club work emphasizes the home-as that is the place where the project is usually carried out-and brings parents and children increasingly together in a common interest.

*Four-H Club work develops self-reliance, ambition, and aggressiveness, It applies business methods to farming and promotes industry and thrift.

"It fosters individual ownership, a love of nature and the open country.

"It brings out the best effort and thought, and gives rural boys and girls an opportunity to earn money and acquire property.

"Four-H Club work shows boys and girls how to do the wholesome, helpful things and to play the game fairly.

"Above all, it develops the highest type of manhood, womanhood, and American citizenship."

Massachusetts

~~ 0~~

ACCENT IS ON YOUTH

This week the accent is on youth as the largest rural youth organization in the world—the 4-H Clubs—observes MATIONAL 4-H ACHIEVEMENT WEEK. Members number nearly TWO MILLION, of which some (number) are in (State), and are in ______ county.

For many years, the 4-H Clubs have made their influence felt in education for farming, homemaking, and rural community life. Their progress deserves the commendations of community, state, and nation.

This is certainly a time when ALL citizens of ______ county will do well to encourage the work of the 4-H Clubs, examine the results which they have achieved, and tell others of the benefits to be derived from taking some part in the program.

Four-H Clubs constitute an outstanding body of boys and girls. They attain worthwhile goals in life and as a character-building influence they are of uppermost importance. It is a great satisfaction to know that the work of the 4-H

Clubs is based on each club member doing a useful piece of work on the farm or in the home, or community under skilled guidance and doing it the best way known to research and practice. It is also a satisfaction to know that 4-H Clubs have become an outstanding influence in developing the cultural, social, and recreational as well as the practical aspects of modern rural life.

It is a real pleasure to join in paying honor to the 4-H Club members of county, of the State, and of the Nation who have dedicated themselves to training for better citizenship, better living, and a more prosperous farm and home life.

Connecticut

--0--

COUNTY 4-H ACHIEVEMENTS 1949

| More than had health examinations. Nearly took part |
|--|
| in some judging and demonstration activities. About 4-H Club members |
| and more than local volunteer leaders attended a county camp of one |
| week's duration. |
| |
| In project work in 1949, (county) 4-H Club members planned meals; |
| served meals, and preserved quarts of food. They made |
| garments and remodeled others, |
| |
| County 4-H'ers produced acres of corn, acres of potatoes, and |
| acres of home gardens. They cared for head of poultry, head of |
| dairy animals, and head of livestock. |
| |
| In addtion, club members learned how to be more understanding |
| citizens through running their own meetings, discussing world peace issues and |
| responsibilities, and acting as leaders in their clubs and in community under- |
| takings. |
| |
| Yes, these busy 4-H'ers actually do things. They produce, they build, they |
| county Extension Agent |
| county Extension Agent |

West Virginia

--0--

4-H MEMBERS CHALLENGED BY THEIR MOTTO, PLEDGE

"To Make the Best Better" is the challenging motto of every 4-H'er throughout the nation. And to make the best better he pledges "his Head to clearer thinking, his Heart to greater loyalty, his Hands to larger service, and his Health to better living for his club, his community and his country."

Members of 4-H Clubs carry out this pledge as they engage in projects, aid many community and world-wide campaigns, encourage good health by medical examinations, and practice soil conservation and accident prevention.

The emblem of the 4-H organization is the four-leaf clover with a white "H" on each green petal. These four "H's" stand for four-fold development-training of the head, heart, hand and health mentioned in the pledge.

The green symbolizes the open country, and white stands for purity.

Boys and girls in 4-H work also have traditional creeds which express the philosophy upon which their clubs are based.

Minnesota

4-H TRAINING

says that no better tribute to the 4-H Clubs could be given than this one by the late Dr. C. B. Smith:

"Four-H Club work is a kind of training in which rural youth learns better ways of farming and homemaking, better ways of working together in groups and on community matters, better ways of living. It recognizes the basic educational values of farm life. It puts the emphasis on self-reliance, character, and an appreciation of the things of the open country. It makes for good homes, good citizens, and a cultural rural life."

Georgia

4-H ADMISSION CEREMONY

Many a 4-H Club member has been stimulated to greater effort and achievement by the experiences and opportunities made possible through 4-H Club werk. A brief summary of some of the 4-H basic principles at the time new members are admitted may aid considerably in developing an appreciation of the values of Club work. Therefore, this brief ceremony seems especially appropriate at the time new members are enrolled in a 4-H Club.

Suggestions:

The guide takes the candidate for 4-H Club membership to the front of the room, where the officers are standing behind a table.

President:

To you who are about to become a member of the 4-H Clubs of America, we, as active members of (club name), sharing responsibilities in the carrying out of our 4-H program, wish to explain the purposes of our organization.

Vice President:

The 4-H Clubs are part of the national agricultural Extension Service of the United States Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the State colleges of agriculture and county Extension organizations. 4-H Clubs are organized to help us to become better citizens in a democracy by teaching us how to work and play together: by guiding us in the solving of our own problems and those of the home and community in relation to our 10 4-H guideposts; by giving us an opportunity to learn better methods of farming and homemaking; by encouraging us to pass these better methods along to others; by giving us an understanding and appreciation of country life; and by helping us to be of service to others and to our communities in a changing world, In addition, during this critical period, each 4-H Club program provides rural young people an opportunity to do their full part in working together for a better home and world community,

Secretary:

Our 4-H emblem is a green four-leaf clover, with a white "H" on each leaf, standing for the development of the Head, Heart, Hands, and Health.

Our 4-H motto is "To make the best better."

The ten 4-H guideposts are:

- 1. Developing talents for greater usefulness.
- 2. Joining with friends for work, fun and fellowship,
- 3. Learning to live in a changing world.
- 4. Choosing a way to earn a living.

- 5. Producing food and fiber for home and market.
- 6. Creating better homes for better living.
- 7. Conserving nature's resources for security and happiness.
- 8. Building health for a strong America.
- 9. Sharing responsibilities for community improvement.
- 10. Serving as citizens in maintaining world peace.

Our 4-H citizenship pledge is:

- "We, individually and collectively, pledge our efforts from day to day, to fight for the ideals of this Nation.
- "We will never allow tyranny and injustice to become enthroned in this, our country, through indifference to our duties as citizens.
- "We will strive for intellectual honesty and exercise it through our power of franchise. We will chey the laws of our land and endeavor increasingly to quicken the sense of public duty among our fellowmen.
- "We will strive for individual improvement and for social betterment. We will devote our talents to the enrichment of our homes and our communities in relation to their material, social, and spiritual needs.
- "We will endeavor to transmit this Nation to posterity not merely as we found it, but freer, happier, and more beautiful than it was when transmitted to us.

Treasurer:

This 4-H Club wants every person who joins it to know that he is joining a national organization which has very important peacetime responsibilities. Every person should know also that this is an organization in which the Extension Service of the United States Department of Agriculture with head-quarters in the Nation's Capital, is working cooperatively with the extension services of the State colleges of agriculture and the county extension services, as well as with those of Hawaii, Alaska, and Puerto Rico; and that 4-H Clubs are now under way also in many other countries.

President:

You are now familiar with the purposes of 4-H Club work, the 4-H emblem and what it symbolizes, the 4-H motto, the ten 4-H guideposts to be used in developing 4-H programs, and the 4-H citizenship pledge. Are you now willing to try to live up to these ideals of the 4-H Club organization?

Candidate: I am.

President: Do you now wish to become a 4-H Club member?

Candidate: I do.

President: Please sign the 4-H Club membership roll.

Candidate signs in secretary's book.

President: Please repeat the club pledge after me.

Candidate (repeats after president):

I pledge--

My Head to clearer thinking,
My Heart to greater loyalty,
My Hands to larger service, and
My Health to better living,

For my club, my community, and my country.

President:

You are now a member of (name of club) 4-H Club. We welcome you into its membership. May you ever do your full part in carrying out the 4-H program; be faithful in helping to carry on your own 4-H work as a part of the general extension program of your community and county in partnership with your parents and neighbors; and in living up to its high ideals to the end that you will be among the distinguished number who are working for a better home and world community.

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